FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 NOVEMBER 1984

Libya

Presence in Chad — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi told a press conference in Valetta that he is "totally committed" to the agreement on the withdrawal of French and Libyan troops from Chad, declaring that Libya will not send any more airplanes, tanks, or soldiers to that country, AFP reported. While admitting that some Libyan troops may still be in Chad because of "a problem of logistics," Al-Qadhdhafi totally rejected U.S. reports that a major Libyan contingent is still in the northern region of Tibesti. However, he warned that Libya will send troops back to Chad if "any foreign troops" reenter the country.

Meanwhile, in a Paris radio interview, Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou claimed that Al-Qadhdhafi has not withdrawn a single Libyan soldier from Chad, adding that over 4,000 Libyans are still in the country. If the French intend to undertake a new "Manta" operation, it should have "more muscles" than before and should aim to drive the Libyans out of Chad, because force is the only language Al-Qadhdhafi understands, he stated.

Al-Bakkush Affair — Reacting to reports that former Prime Minister 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bakkush met with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud described Al-Bakkush as a "good-for-nothing" and a "dead specimen," according to JANA. In Malta, Col al-Qadhdhafi told newsmen that he would not waste his time answering Mubarak's accusations of terrorism, and contended that Mubarak is a "secret agent in the pay of the CIA" rather than a head of state, AFP reported.

Relations With Malta — Col al-Qadhdhafi concluded his visit to Malta by signing a treaty of friendship and cooperation with the Maltese leaders, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported. Before leaving the island, Al-Qadhdhafi disclosed that the treaty covers cooperation in all fields, including military matters, and he added that Libya will help the Maltese Army protect the island's security, according to AFP.

PLO

PFLP and DFLP leaders George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah left for Moscow for talks with Soviet officials on PLO developments related to the call to convene the PNC session in Amman, KUNA reported. They were responding to an "urgent invitation" from the CPSU Central Committee, according to a DFLP statement cited by Radio Monte Carlo. Prior to his departure, Habash, along with PNC speaker Khalid al-Fahum, met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Damascus radio disclosed.

Meanwhile, PLO official Mahmud 'Abbas, in remarks cited by KUNA, claimed that more than 256 of the 384 PNC members have expressed their readiness to attend the PNC session, a number exceeding the required quorum, which means that the attendance of the 160 members from the "occupied territories" is not essential. Meanwhile, an "extraordinarily sharp dispute" over the PNC session between supporters and opponents of PLO Executive Committee Chirman Yasir 'Arafat is taking place on the West Bank, Jerusalem television noted.

In another development, a British Foreign Office spokesman said that a proposal from 'Arafat to visit Britain in early December to launch his biography would have to be carefully studied, London PRESS ASSOCIATION reported, while a spokesman for the Israeli Embassy in London, cited by Jerusalem radio, stated that it would be "unreasonable" for the British Government to admit 'Arafat while it is asking for international cooperation to fight terrorism.

As for Palestinian terrorist activities, EFE revealed that the second-in-command for Europe of Sabri al-Banna's dissident Fatah organization was arrested in Madrid. The agency said that he was in Spain to obtain information on citizens and embassies of moderate Arab countries and that he had been responsible for a plan to murder the head of the PLO office in Madrid in 1981 and for wounding the Israeli ambassador to London in 1982.

Israeli-Lebanese Talks at Al-Naqurah

Some "positive elements" emerged during the discussions, which will resume on 21 November, Jerusalem radio reported citing the UNIFIL spokesman's statement on the 19 November talks. Although the differences between the two sides remain substantial, the "ice was broken" when the two sides engaged in a direct and open dialogue over the Lebanese proposals for the deployment of the Lebanese Army in southern Lebanon, IDF radio said. The Lebanese also indicated that they are ready to make concessions on two issues: their demand for war reparations and the status of the Armistice Commission, according to the radio. On the other hand, a Lebanese source cited by Beirut radio stated that Lebanon has insisted on reparations, adding that the sum demanded is preliminary and that the "correct figure" is much higher. A source on the Lebanese side subsequently stated that the negotiations were characterized by "opposed positions," according to Voice of Lebanon radio, noting that the Lebanese insist on an overall plan for withdrawal, to be following by security arrangements, while Israel stipulates that such arrangements be made before the withdrawal. As for the army of southern Lebanon, which was not discussed in the talks on 19 November, Jerusalem radio said the parties may have decided to refrain from debating the most contentious issues in order to create an impression of progress in the talks.

Syrian Diplomacy

After a trip to Riyadh to convey a message to Saudi King Fahd from President al-Asad "dealing with the situation in the region," Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' flew from Damascus to Sofia to join the delegation headed by Prime Minister 'Abd

al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Damascus television reported. In Sofia, Al-Kasm and Bulgarian Premier Georgi Filipov began an "official and friendly visit" with talks on "questions of mutual interest," according to BTA.

Gulf Affairs

Kuwaiti Isiands — On 17 November Kuwait's prime minister visited military installations in northern Kuwait, including Warbah and Bubiyan Islands, accompanied by the defense minister and other officials, *AL-QABAS* reported. Attributing this visit to Kuwait's efforts to assure Iran that it has not handed over three of its Gulf islands to Iraq, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said that discrepancies between Baghdad and Kuwaiti media reports and explanations given to the Iranian charge in Kuwait have lessened Iran's confidence in Kuwait's assurances, according to IRNA.

Iranian Oil Exports — The number of tankers calling at the Khark Island oil terminal has risen significantly recently, Manama's *GULF DAILY NEWS* disclosed, citing oil industry sources. Diplomats in Tehran say the trigger for Iran's apparent oil sales drive may be a fall in hard currency reserves, the paper added.

Afghanistan

Pakistan Border Protests — Pakistan protested a cross-border firing incident which killed one civilian on 14 November, meanwhile rejecting an allegation from Kabul that there had been fire from Pakistan that killed an Afghani on 11 November, Karachi radio reported. On the other hand, the DRA summoned the Pakistani charge d'affaires in Kabul to condemn alleged Pakistani cross-border fire on 16, 17, and 18 November, Kabul radio noted.

Mujahidin Successes — A Soviet Army general was killed when rebel forces shot down his helicopter "last week," Western diplomatic sources in New Delhi claimed, according to AFP. Rebels reportedly also shot dead the head of the Afghan Secret Service (KHAD) in Lowgar Province, south of Kabul, on 20 October, according to the same AFP report. Furthermore, Tehran radio reported that Muslim revolutionaries liberated "three important regions" in Ghowr Province.

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Karmal Discusses Issues With Political Bureau

LD192258 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] A routine session of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau was chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, yesterday, 17 November.

First the work of the DYOA [Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan] was discussed and assessed at the meeting, in light of the decisions and resolutions of the DYOA nationwide conference and the resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee plenums.

Assessing the work of the DYOA, Babrak Karmal said: The proud history of our people in pursuing the cause of social justice and in the creation of a prosperous and progressive society, is one of the militant revolutionary generation of our youth. The young generation of our homeland is responsible for the destiny of a better future for our people.

The teaching of the April revolution, the rich experiences of the youth organizations of our homeland, of the Soviet Union and of other socialist countries, and the courageous struggles of youth throughout the world for peace, freedom, progress, justice, and prosperity, teach our people — under the leadership of the PDPA, the party of the working class and of all workers — to strive forward with loyalty to the ideals of the revolution and to a feeling of responsibility before the people, love for our beloved homeland, revolutionary Afghanistan, and struggle for the construction of a new, just society. Our youth should be totally opposed to the enemies of the people and homeland, the toppled exploiting classes and every sort of oppression, injustice, lawbreaking, ambition, ignorance, and against the heretic, feudal, and capitalist ideology.

Describing the good virtues of the youth, Babrak Karmal said: Our youth should be modest, pious, courageous, should possess high progressive ethics, and should set the example in good talk, good deeds, and good intentions. They should develop the etiquette of the new era of [word indistinct] and, as fervent revolutionary patriots of Afghanistan, should be loyal to the sincere friendship with the Soviet Union and [words indistinct]. Friendship with the Soviet Union is our national and international duty and is the guarantor of the freedom and independence of our fatherland, Afghanistan. The youth should consider the priority of social interests to that of personal, tribal, ethnic, and sectarian interests; should respect the sanctity of families, fathers, mothers, elders, teachers and lecturers; have consideration for Islamic beliefs and the traditions of the noble people of Afghanistan; safeguard and prtect the customs and ancient traditions of the old culture of our people, learn the progressive ethics of the new era, serve the people, courageously and heroically defend the freedom and independence of the country and revolution, be irreconcilable toward the enemy, possess revolutionary love for the country, improve the life of the workers and [words indistinct] against the internal and external counterrevolution, the class enemies of the working class and all workers, against reaction and imperialism. These are the ethical tasks of our youth.

Speaking of the importance of the political and ideological work of the DYOA, Babrak Karmal pointed out that the most important and most honorable task which has been laid on the shoulders of the DYOA is to make our young generation aware of the aims and ideals of the revolution and to strengthen still further their political and ideological work. Youth cannot be absorbed into active and creative work unless they know about the benefits and harm of what they do. Serious measures should be taken to enhance the level of knowledge and of matters related to the political and ideological training of the youth. The spirit of learning in schools and universities among our youth and their attraction to creative work is weak and without [word indistinct]. Most of our youth do not know the proud history of the struggle of their country's people; they do not correctly study the political geography of the country, and are not fully aware of the class struggle in our homeland. As a result, with closed eyes and ears they fall prey to the propaganda and deeds of the enemy. The DYOA, the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education, under whom the (?masses) of youth are coordinated, should take measures to remove these defects. In implementing educational regulations and discipline they should be serious and decisive so that the youth can be trained in a spirit of patriotism and love for work and the (?homeland).

I would also like to mention another point — that is, the military training of the youth which has a deep link with their patriotic feelings. We have great respect for the work of youth in the DRA Armed Forces. Our youth have been organized in the Armed Forces, the Revolution Guards, the defenders of revolution groups, the border militia, and in self-defense groups in order to pay their debt to the motherland. We are proud of the determination and the revolutionary will of our patriotic youths. Political awareness, military patriotic training, the enhancement of moral and combat capability, courage and self-sacrifice in executing revolutionary tasks are important psychological elements which (?encourage) our youth in accomplishing revolutionary changes in the future.

In connection with the further coordination of youth in the ranks of the DYOA, Babrak Karmal said: Every sort of initiative, every sort of activity to enhance the present dynamic movement of the country's youths is admissible. However, one should not use the good of this movement to recruit and absorb youth into the DYOA by force and imposition. If such an act has taken place by the DYOA it is an irreparable mistake. In imposing such a method [words indistinct] and recruitment into our social organizations, we should learn from our past bitter experiences and should not repeat those mistakes. If such a method is consciously pursued, then it is treason to the cause of the revolution; if pursued unconsciously, it is a serious mistake and should be avoided.

We believe in the proven and progressive principle and method of recruitment, that is volunteering and possessing the necessary characteristics for carrying out revolutionary tasks. The principles of our party dictates and experiences have shown that quality of work should not be sacrificed for quantity. Young strugglers should be recruited to the ranks of the party and social organizations, in particular the DYOA, with courage, broad-mindedness and further attention. The policy of logically accepting individuals should be observed in consideration of their class links, and

priority should be given to the sons of workers in entering the ranks of the DYOA. This is a fundamental task of this organization.

Recalling the heroism and epics of the youth of our country in armed defense of the revolution and in the area of theoretical work, Babrak Karmal said: The heroism of youth should become a vanguard and an example for the work of our country's future generations. In order to immortalize the deeds of the young heroes, revolutionary and fervent films displaying the heroic struggles of the members of the DYOA should be prepared. The PDPA should have revolutionary films, stories and epic dramas of their work and struggle.

Babrak Karmal said: Now, the DYOA has been transformed into a coordinating organ of youth and its links with youth organizations of many countries have been strengthened. This indicates the ever-increasing national and international credibility of the youth of Afghanistan. Necessary measures should be taken to consolidate the link between this organization and the youth organizations of progressive Islamic countries and with the nonaligned countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from the PDPA Central Committee Secretariat that specific tasks were entrusted to the departments of the PDPA Central Committee, the state organs and social organizations by the Political Bureau in order to implement the broad analytical and scientific instructions of Babrak Karmal.

In conclusion, a draft resolution concerning the (?tasks) of the DYOA Central Committee in further improving political-organizational and training work among youth in light of the decisions and resolutions of the nationwide conference, and of the resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee plenums was approved by the Political Bureau session.

The second topic discussed in the routine session of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau dealt with improving pricing and measures toward stablizing retail prices in the DRA.

In assessing this question at the Political Bureau meeting, Babrak Karmal said: The question of pricing and the stablility of prices along with supplies of material needed by the masses, is one of the fundamental issues to which our party and state should address itself. Thanks to measures that have been taken in this regard by the Council of Ministers, and when compared with similar countries and with the general crisis in the capitalist countries, the supply of primary goods and the price of goods in the country are relatively stable. However, a solution to the problem of increasing prices, and an improvement in pricing and in their stability requires serious, precise and consistent work.

Unfortunately, it should be clearly admitted that serious attention has not been paid to the stabilization and lowering of prices. This has resulted from the conspiracies, interference, and provocations of international imperialism, headed by the United States and the reactionary regimes of the region which finance the training centers of the counterrevolutionary bands, and because of the economic blockade against Afghanistan and the (?limitation) of fundamental primary goods on the one hand, and the lack of attention and carelessness of a number of the party (?committees) and state organs, particularly in the country's provinces and districts, on the other.

Serious attention has not been paid to people's complaints in this regard. Smugglers and hoarders of essential goods have not been properly dealt with. It is even said that if they are dealt with legally this might cause problems and annoy people. It should be said that these words are all excuses to cover up weaknesses and deficiencies. The party, revolution and people of Afghanistan have never supported, do not support and cannot support the violation of justice and truth and will not defend hoarders, profiteers, and smugglers.

Experience shows that people's assistance has not been sought to control the price of essential goods. Serious measures should be taken to create a system of popular control over prices of essential goods throughout the country. One type of price control and stabilization is to increase the network of state shops to enable people to get what they need. At the same time, attention should be paid to increasing the volume of barter trade, attracting grants-in-aid, and supplying institutions with foodstuffs at a fixed price. Now that we have created a wide network of peasant cooperatives, the union of peasant cooperatives should buy surplus produce from farmers and cooperatives and supply them to the people through cooperative outlets.

The issue of pricing and price control should take the form of scientifically formulated law, so that vendors and consumers can know their legal rights and obligations. The activities of municipalites in controlling prices are not sufficient. All party committees, social organizations, state organs, and people should cooperate in this regard. Making the rich richer and the poor poorer under the pretext of revolutionary activites should not be allowed.

Those who do not pay attention to the people's demand for stable prices — who by doing so serve hoarders, profiteers and smugglers — are in reality in the service of the savage counterrevolution and of the enemies of the country's workers. Such people should be dealt with seriously.

The PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau has assigned specific duties in this regard to the responsible departments of the PDPA Central Committee and relevant organs in order to implement Babrak Karmal's instructions, and has approved a resolution on improving pricing, and on measures to stablize retail prices in the DRA.

The routine session of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau also assessed and discussed the issue of apprentice worker's working conditions and wage increases.

Paying serious and comprehensive attention to improving the working and living conditions of workers and apprentice workers and comprehensively assessing the subject, Babrak Karmal said: Prior to the April revolution, and due to the oppressive characteristics of the feudal monarchy, no attention was paid to improving the living conditions of workers and apprentice workers. Immediately after the revolution, especially after its new development

stage, all the chains enslaving the workers were broken and all oppressive antiworker laws were repealed.

The DRA, which is a member of the International Labor Organization, has provided facilities to enable 15-year-old children to work in institutions in order to receive professional training; this has been done according to the regulations of industrial institutions and recommendations of that body. The term apprentice worker applies to these future workers of the country. Parallel to professional training, apprentice workers also perform physical work. Therefore, they are entitled to a specific wage.

All ministries, state departments, and social organizations are duty-bound to pay serious attention to providing favorable working conditions, and to enhancing the skill, professional knowledge and training of apprentice workers. Every kind of carelessness and indifference in this regard will be seriously dealt with.

The Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education, the Department of Labor and Social Security, the Central Council of DRA Trade Unions, and all state, mixed and private institutions should adopt the necessary measures to educate and train apprentice workers.

During enrollment in workers' schools which were created after the revolution to train young workers, priority should be given to those who are really workers or apprentice workers or who have a working class origin. The subject of expansion of workers' schools and the provision of necessary facilities to enroll the workers' children to these schools should be seriously studied and put into practice.

It should be pointed out once again that creating unbearable working conditions and indifference to the payments of wages do not conform at all with the objectives we have discussed. Once again, all those responsible should pay serious attention to improving the working and living conditions of the workers.

The PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau approved a resolution with regard to wage increases for the apprentice worker. The resolution has been sent to the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium for final approval.

Foreign Ministry Protests Pakistani 'Aggressions'

LD191753 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this afternoon at 1400 and the following statement was made to him by the head of the First Political Directorate concerning the recent aggressions by the armed forces of Pakistan in Bishangar and Barikowt areas of Konarha Province and in Zazi region of Paktia Province:

Despite repeated notes and warnings by the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Government of Pakistan through Pakistan's embassy of the consequences of armed aggression and provocations against the DRA, we note these aggressions and provocations not only continued but have increased.

The relevant authorities of the DRA report that as a result of heavy weapons' fire from Pakistani territory on 26, 27 and 28 Aqrab [16, 17 and 18 November], four houses in Bishangar and three houses in the Barikowt area of Konarha Province have been destroyed.

Similarly, heavy and long-range weapons' fire from Pakistani territory on Zazi region on 27 Aqrab has resulted in great material losses.

The DRA considers these repeated armed agressions by the Pakistani forces as a provocative and intentional act to complicate the border situation. The DRA strongly protests, condemns, and denounces these hostile activities to the Government of Pakistan. The DRA once again states that responsibility for the dangerous consequences arising from these activities rests entirely with the Pakistani authorities. The DRA reserves the right to adopt necessary measures in order to defend their territorial sovereignty and integrity.

Transport Minister, Others on Qandahar Situation

LD192203 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The Commission of Transport Affairs of Qandahar Province in a meeting yesterday attended by Minister of Transportation Sher Jan Mazduryar, adopted the necessary measures regarding the further improvement of deliveries and transportation affairs in that province.

At the meeting, a report regarding transportation activity and delivery of goods in the province was presented, followed by the expression of views and proposals about improving transportation affairs. The appropriate measures were adopted.

The following were present: Brigadier Mohammad Hakim, head of the Central Zone; the party provincial committee secretary; the governor of Qandahar; and officials in charge of concerned departments.

Meeting With Cuban Foreign Ministry Delegation

LD192246 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The first round of official talks between a DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs delegation, chaired by Deputy Foreign Minister Sarwar Yoresh, and a delegation of the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs headed by Pelegrin Torras, vice minister of foreign relations, was held this afternoon.

At the talks, which were held in a fraternal, sincere atmosphere, Sarwar Yoresh spoke in detail regarding the gains of the April revolution, the increase of the DRA's international prestige, and our country's stand regarding different international questions.

The Cuban vice minister of foreign relations also described the stands of his country and particularly explained the danger confronting Central America and Nicaragua.

Pelegrin Torras, heading a high-ranking Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs delegation, arrived in Kabul this morning at the invitation of the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The DRA deputy foreign minister and high-ranking Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials welcomed the delegation at Kabul International Airport.

AFP: Rebels Kill Soviet General, Secret Service Chief

NC201235 Paris AFP in English 1223 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 20 (AFP) — A Soviet general was killed last week by Afghan insurgents who shot down his helicopter flying to Kabul, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

Rebels also shot dead the head of the Afghan Secret Service — the KHAD — in Lowgar Province, south of Kabul on October 20, a separate diplomatic source said today.

The source said Lt. Col. Sayed Hassan Shah was killed as insurgents captured eight other secret service officers.

The general had been on the way to Kabul from a major Soviet Army base that he commanded at Khowst Ashor in Afghanistan, southwest of the capital, the sources said.

His name had been verbally reported as "Karaskin" but the spelling was uncertain, they said.

Three other helicopter gunships and an Antonov-12 transport plane were also shot down in the same region in the past seven days by Moslem insurgents seeking to topple the Soviet-backed government of Babrak Karmal, the sources said.

There was no independent confirmation of the reports and the Afghan Embassy here refused to comment.

Casualties from those attacks were unknown said the diplomats, who monitor from here developments in Afghanistan where the entry of Western mediamen is severely restricted.

The sources also said that the Soviet Union was building new airfields in western Afghanistan, near Iran.

There were reports that one was being built in Mir-I-Dauod in Herat Province and another either in Dasti-i-Amairan or in Dast-i-Jahanoom, in Nimruz Province.

The Soviet Air Force, which supports Soviet and Afghan Army operations, currently operates from about six main airports in the country, the sources said.

Known ones are at Baghram, north of Kabul, Shindand, between Herat and Kabul, Kandahar, Jalalabad, Mazar-i-Sharif and Kabul itself, they said.

In another attack in Kabul, insurgents killed two Afghan Air Force officers near the Interior Ministry Office in Kabul on November 11, the source said.

The rebels have launched several rocket attacks on Kabul in the past week, once hitting a 400-bed Soviet military hospital, the diplomats said.

They also repeated a report that five weeks ago Soviet and Afghan troops killed 450 rebels who had surrendered after being assured of their safety.

Clandestine Radio: Attacks on Soviet-Karmal Forces

Soviet Embassy in Kabul

GF200726 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Despite the strict security measures in Kabul and the presence of tanks and personnel carriers in front of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul, this building became the target of a flood of missiles by our mujahidin brothers soon after the anniversary of the revolution in Russia.

According to the same report, a few hours after this incident, since the mercenaries did not learn a lesson, our mujahidin brothers once again barraged the Russian Embassy with a flood of missiles. The result was that everyone escaped from the Russian Embassy building in Kabul. Our mujahidin brothers in Kabul are continuing their attacks on the offices of the Ministry of Defense and military units.

Clash West of Herat

GF200627 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] According to reports received, the occupying Soviet forces and the Karmalist mercenaries attacked the positions of our mujahidin brothers west of Herat. Our mujahidin brothers rose to a timely defense, and the occupying Soviet forces and their mercenaries were faced with the Muslim mujahidin's heroic resistance. During these operations five tanks belonging to the enemy were destroyed and dozens of the enemy forces were killed or injured. Following this heroic resistance by our mujahidin brothers, the occupying enemy forces were forced to retreat.

Karachi on Successful Mujahidin Attacks

BK171115 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] There are reports of clashes between the Afghan mujahidin and the Soviet-Karmal forces in Baghlan, Badakhshan Province and Qandahar City. According to agency reports, the mujahidin successfully launched an attack on a Soviet mobile force along Salang highway between Finjan and Dowshi on the 2d of this month in which three armored personnel carriers were damaged. The reports add that the army camp of Pishin town, 99 km from Faizabad — the headquarters of Badakhshan Province — also came under an attack from the mujahidin. The mujahidin also shelled the Soviet Air Force weather office in the area.

Rajiv Files for Nomination in Amethi Constituency

BK201313 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 20 Nov 48

[Excerpts] The election commission today issued the notification setting in motion the process of general election for constituting the 8th Lok Sabha. According to the notification, filing of nominations opened in 514 of the 542 parliamentary constitutency.

Polling will be held on the 24th, 27th, and 28th of next month. No election program has been fixed for the 14 constituencies in Assam and 13 in Punjab. Polling in the snow-bound Ladakh constitu ncy in Jammu and Kashmir will be held in June next. The 5-year term of the current Lok Sabha expires on 20 January next year.

Simultaneously, notifications were issued in Tamil Nadu, Manipur, and the union territories of Arunachal Pradesh and Goa, Daman, and Diu for fresh elections to assemblies along with the Lok Sabha poll.

The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, today filed his nomination papers from the Amethi parliamentary constituency in Uttar Pradesh. Four sets of nomination papers were filed on his behalf. They were filed by four sitting members of legislative assembly of the constitency.

Rajiv Urges People 'To Remain United, Peaceful'

BK191301 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The prime minister has declared that India will use all its might to defeat the machinations of powers who are attempting to break it up. Addressing a mammoth public meeting in New Delhi today on the 67th birth anniversary of Mrs Indira Gandhi, he urged the people to remain united and peaceful.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi recalled Mrs Gandhi's role in building India as a modern democratic nation and said though she is no longer with us physically, her programs and visions continue to guide us in strengthening the country and taking it forward. Her most glorious legacy is that she laid the foundation of a united and strong country with democracy and freedom the like of which exist in few other countries. We showed to the world that the foundation Mrs Gandhi laid is not so weak as to be shaken by the bullets of an assassin. However hard some countries might try we will never succumb to pressure.

The prime minister declared that the best way to avenge Mrs Gandhi's killing is for all Indians to use their entire strength to keep the country united and strong. They should not give way to anger, gloom, or hatred. We have to march ahead in the same way along the path shown by Jawahar Lal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, face challenges and build India of Gandhiji's dreams whose teachings have all along been guiding the nation, he added.

The information and broadcasting minister, Mr Bhagat, the chief exective councillor of Delhi, Mr Jag Pravesh Chandra, and the mayor of Delhi, Mr M.S. Sathi, said that Mrs Gandhi sacrificed her life for India's unity and it is the duty of the people to strengthen it.

The lieutenant governor of Delhi, Mr Wali, said the greatest tribute to Mrs Gandhi is to follow the path shown by her in making India strong and prosperous.

People Pledge Support

BK191625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The nation today paid homage to Mrs Indira Gandhi on her 67th birth anniversary. National integration week is being observed throughout the country. People took a pledge to work with dedication and to preserve and strengthen the freedom and integration of the nation. They also resolved not to resort to violence and settle all differences and disputes through peaceful and constitutional means.

Addressing a mammoth public meeting in New Delhi, the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has declared that India is determined to defeat the machinations of forces attempting to disintegrate the country. The meeting was organized by the Delhi administration and people from all walks of life attended it.

The prime minister said the best way to defeat the forces behind Mrs Gandhi's assassination is for all Indians to use their might to keep the country united and strengthen its integrity. The prime minister said we have to preserve Mrs Gandhi's glorious legacy of a united country with democracy and freedom. Few other countries including some in our neighborhood have been able to achieve this. India is one of the few democratic countries which can really raise their voice in world forums.

The prime minister noted that this is Mrs Indira Gandhi's first birthday when she is not with us. But she had reached a stature when a person's ideas and policies are much more relevant and not his or her physical presence, he said. Mrs Gandhi's programs continue to guide us. She nourished the country's unity by her programs to benefit the poor, the backward and other weaker sections including the scheduled castes and tribes, adivasis [nomadic tribes] and minorities. The government would see that these programs are carried forward. He would ensure that there is honesty and integrity both in politics and administration.

Rajiv Gandhi Sends Message to Nonaligned Meeting

BK191551 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The prime minister has reiterated India's continuing commitment to the principles of the Nonaligned Movement. In a message to the bureau of the nonaligned countries which is meeting in New York today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said he has full faith in the unity of the Nonaligned Movement and in its ability to function as a positive, dynamic, and significant force in international relations. India, he said, stands for the lowering of tensions and consolidation of peace, justice, and progress in all parts of the world.

Thanking the nonaligned leaders who had expressed their sympathy on the assassination of Mrs Gandhi, the prime minister said she was an ardent champion and tireless fighter for freedom, justice, and equality among the peoples and nations of the world. The imprint of her actions will endure. The ideals she cherished will continue to guide us.

Colombo Reports Rajiv's Message to Jayewardene

BK171319 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] The Indian Government is firmly committed to continuing genuine and lasting friendship with Sri Lanka. This was stated by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in a message sent to President Jayewardene yesterday.

Mr Gandhi has said that Sri Lanka and India are linked together by many common ties. On behalf of the government and the people of India he conveyed his sincere appreciation to the president for his message of sympathy and condolence. They were greatly touched by Mr Jayewardene personally sharing with them their grief and sorrow.

He said that the presence of President Jayewardene with them during the difficult times would also be remembered by all of them.

Mr Gandhi wished the people of Sri Lanka success and prosperity.

'Objectionable' Events in Pakistan Protested

BK191407 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] India has strongly protested to Pakistan for allowing Sikh extremist elements from the third countries to indulge in anti-Indian activities at Nankana Sahib [Sikh shrine in Pakistan] early this month. The foreign secretary, Mr. M.K. Rasgotra, conveyed to Pakistan's ambassador in New Delhi today India's unhappiness, indignation, and concern at a manner in which the Sikh extremists were allowed to indulge in highly objectionable activities at Nankana Sahib.

The foreign secretary regretted that the Pakistan officials have even helped and encouraged them. He said such actions could only be considered as unfriendly and inconsistent with Pakistan's professed desire for friendly and tension-free relations with India.

With reference to certain recent statements of the Pakistan authorities, Mr Rasgotra pointed out that India had never suggested that foreign Sikhs should not be allowed into Pakistan for pilgrimage. All that India has asked for was that the sacred occasions of religious pilgrimage should not be exploited for anti-India political purposes of foreign Sikhs.

Polling Dates for States, Territories Finalized

BK191547 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The polling dates of eight states and five union territories have been finalaized. Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra will have a 2-day poll on the 24th and the 27th of next month whkle Gujarat will have a 1-day poll on the 24th. Polling in Meghalaya, Nagaland, and the union territory of Mizoram will be held on the 28th. The states of Rajasthan, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and the union territories of Delhi, Goa, Daman, and Dieu, Chandigarh, and Nagar Haveli will have a 1-day poll on the 24th.

Press Censorship Relaxed in Chandigarh 20 Nov

BK201257 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Press censorship is being relaxed in Chandigarh from today in a phased manner. An official spokesman said the ban on entry of newspapers, periodicals, and other publications containing objectionable material into the union territory will, however, continue.

The spokesman said newspapers have been requested to observe self-restraint while publishing matters on communal and law and order problem.

Protest Lodged With Afghanistan Over Shooting

BK191541 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office today and a strong protest was lodged with him in connection with the shooting incident from across the border on the Afghan side, killing one Pakistani civilian in the Khyber Agency last Wednesday [14 November]. The charge d'affaires was told that the Government of Pakistan condemns the Kabul administration's irresponsible and provocative actions. The protest note warned them to refrain from activities which might further worsen the situation. The UN secretary general's office is also being informed of the details of this incident.

Meanwhile, Pakistan has described as incorrect and baseless the allegation made by the Kabul authorities that heavy-weapons firing was made from Pakistani territory toward Barikowt town in the Konarha Province of Afghanistan on 11 November. Kabul authorities had also alleged that one person was killed and another injured and damage was caused to some property as a result of the firing. The Afghan authorities and the UN secretary general have also been informed about Pakistan's rejection of the allegations.

Yaqub Khan Comments on Talks in Washington

BK200949 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that he is satisfied with his visit to Washington. He said this while talking to ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN before leaving Washington for Islamabad via London last night.

The foreign minister yesterday exchanged views with U.S. Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger and Navy Secretary Mr John Lehman. He apprised Mr Weinberger on the Afghanistan situation, particularly violations from the Afghanistan side of Pakistan's airspace and territory. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said he exchanged views with the U.S. defense secretary on the situation stemming from the tragic assassination of India's Mrs Indira Gandhi. The foreign minister reaffirmed Pakistan's desire to promote tension-free relations with India, because this is not only in the interest of both countries, but also imperative for peace and stability in the region.

Earlier, the foreign minister held a discussion with the U.S. Navy secretary on various matters at a luncheon.

Spokesman on Yaqub Khan's Meeting With Reagan

BK190640 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The Afghanistan issue, particularly the intensification of foreign military operations in that country, was discussed at a meeting between Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and U.S. President Reagan in Washington last Friday. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad yesterday that the violation of Pakistan's borders also came up for discussion. At the meeting, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, it was revealed that the United States shares Pakistan's concern in this matter. The foreign minister conveyed President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's congratulations to President Reagan on his success in the elections. President Reagan expressed thanks for the congratulations.

The foreign minister also informed President Reagan of Pakistan's desire to foster peace and stability in South Asia and to further improve relations with India.

Spokesman Welcomes UN Resolution on Afghanistan

BK190645 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Pakistan has expressed gratification at the UN General Assembly's massive support for a solution of the Afghanistan problem and described it as an important and positive factor favoring negotiations through the UN secretary general's representative. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad yesterday that the General Assembly, by adopting with an overwhelming 119 votes, has upheld the right of the Afghan people to determine the political, economic and social system of their choice without outside intervention, force or diktat. The spokesman expressed the hope that the fourth round of indirect talks scheduled in Geneva in February will make notable progress toward finding a solution to the Afghanistan problem.

The spokesman said adoption of this resolution on finding a solution to the problem after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan 5 years ago shows that the international community's concern has not diminished. The broad support for the resolution vindicates Pakistan's principled stand on the Afghanistan problem and makes it clear that this problem cannot be solved militarily.

Meeting Held 18 Nov on Election Arrangements

BK181044 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] A high-powered meeting was held in Islamabad today in which the arrangements made in connection with the ensuing elections were considered in detail and various proposals to further improve the conduct of these elections were gone into. The minister for law and parliamentary affairs, Mr Sharifuddin Pirzada, who presided over the meeting, summarized the relevant laws relating to the elections and explained various provisions wherever these seemed to be necessary. The chairmen of the provincial election authorities gave their views on points relating to the working of election machinery.

Those who attended the meeting included the minister for interior, Mr Mahmud A. Haroon; the chief election commissioner, Mr Justice S.A. Nusrat; the secretary general, interior division; Cabinet secretary; federal law secretary; the four chairmen of the provincial election authorities; and chief secretaries of the provinces.

THE MUSLIM Reports Opposition Party Meeting

GF191130 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 31 Oct 84 p 1

[Text] Peshawar, Oct. 30: The Central Committee of the MRD [Movement for Restoration of Democracy] met in Sherpao today to discuss the political situation obtaining in the country and adopted a number of resolutions.

The meeting was chaired by Fatehyab Ali Khan and attended among others by Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, Begum Nasim Wali Khan, Maulana Fazlur Rahman, Syed Munir Shah, Aftab Sherpao, Rao Abdul Rashid, Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour, Asif Vardag, Abdul Latif Afridi, Chaudhry Arshad and Abdul Rahim Khan.

Sind's former Chief Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi also flew into Peshawar this afternoon and shortly after his arrival he left for Sherpao village where he met a number of MRD leaders.

Saboteurs Planned To Bomb Afghan Refugees

GF181808 Karachi DAWN in English 16 Nov 84 p 2

[Text] Peshawar, Nov 15: The two persons who were arrested by the police on Tuesday after a heavy exchange of fire and from whom 85 pieces of dynamite were recovered have in a confessional statements said the explosive was to be used for bombing the Afghan Refugee Commission in Peshawar and Afghan refugee camps on the outskirts of the city.

Shams Buneri and Hamidullah, employees, respectively, of the local Afghan Consulate and the Afghan National Bank, Peshawar branch, have also reportedly confessed before an investigating agency that they were responsible for two blasts, one in a city cinema recently and another in front of an Afghan leader's office in Fakirabad, Peshawar, earlier in which several persons were killed and many other injured, besides substantial damage to property.

They have also indicated the name of the country and the government at whose behest terrorist activities have been carried out in and around Peshawar of late.

Governor Says Al-Zulfiqar Groups Enter Country

BK171728 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] The North-West Frontier Province governor, Lieutenant General Fazle Haq, has said 12 to 14 groups of the notorious terrorist organization, Al-Zulfiqar, has crossed over to Pakistan to sabotage the election program of the president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq. He was talking to newsmen after attending the annual day function of the police public school in Peshawar this afternoon. He however said the government was keeping a strict vigil on the activities of the elements who were out to sabotage the peaceful atmosphere of the country. He categorically declared that such elements would be severely dealt with.

Rawalpindi HAIDAR on Accusations Against CIA

GF191636 Rawalpindi HAIDAR in Urdu 5 Nov 84 p 3

[Editorial: "Inquiry Into the Assassination"]

[Excerpts] Mrs Gandhi's assassination has triggered a spate of Hindu-Sikh violence and has given Soviet media a chance to indirectly implicate the United States.

Soviet commentators have made oblique references to a certain degree of U.S. involvement in the murder, saying that: "The Sikh extremists enjoy the support of the United States." Following this, the U.S. State Department issued a denial of Soviet allegations and this statement was sent to Soviet officials in Moscow and Washington.

The media of some other communist bloc countries have also mentioned the United States in this context and have also involved the CIA. A newspaper of the Czechoslovak Communist Party has accused the United States of being responsible and says: "India's and especially Punjab's security is in danger due to the American CIA's covert actions because secessionist elements are said to enjoy western patronage; and they receive financial and moral support from across the seas."

In India where Mr Rajiv Gandhi has now assumed the premiership, the government is also engaged in investigations about possible CIA involvement. If there is even the slightest hint of such a possibility then the Indian Government will certainly make it public. It is our opinion that until the Indian investigatory agencies reach some conclusion, the mass media of all countries should refrain from such insinuations.

India Withdraws From Karachi Hockey Tournament

BK200635 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] India will not participate in the next champions trophy field hockey tournament which will begin in Karachi on 7 December.

Afghan Mujahidin Down MIG Aircraft 3 Nov

BK170914 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] The Afghan mujahidin reportedly shot down a Soviet MIG aircraft in the Farahbad subdivision of Kabul Province on 3 November. According to a news agency report, the MIG aircraft was providing aerial protection to the Soviet-Karmal forces.

SRI LANKA

Police Station Bombed, 50 Feared Dead

NC201605 Paris AFP in English 1555 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Colombo, Nov 20 (AFP) — Sixteen people died and a further 34 people, some of them policemen, were feared killed in a bomb attack on a northern police station late today, security sources said.

Reports reaching here from security sources in the north blamed the attack, made on Chavakachcheri police station, in Jaffna in the Tamil heartland, to suspected Tamil separatists.

Sixteen bodies were pulled out of the building, which collapsed with about 60 civilians and policemen inside, following the attack by a band of suspected separatists, the sources said.

Delhi Reports Death of Northern Command Chief

BK191559 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The chief of Sri Lankan Army's Northern Command, Colonel Arya Peruma, and four soldiers were killed when a jeep in which he was traveling ran over a mine near a blown-up bridge in Jaffna today. According to reports Colonel Arya Peruma died on the spot.

Meanwhile, Jaffna, Kopai, and Tellippalai areas in northern Sri Lanka are tense. This follows shooting incidents yesterday in which a number of persons were reported killed.

Khomeyni Receives Khamene'i, Hashemi-Rafsanjani

GF191930 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, today received Mr 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the republic, and Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Majlis.

Musavi Questions Kuwait's Stance Over Islands

LD191454 Tehran IRNA in English 1420 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 19, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi said Monday that the Iranian Government would follow up the issue of the Kuwaiti islands because of its "seriousness".

He said the Kuwaiti Government has tried to attract the Islamic Republic's confidence that it had not handed over the three islands (of Bubiyan, Warbah and Faylaka) to Saddam Husayn's aggressor regime. The recent visit of the Kuwaiti crown prince to these islands seems to have taken place in this connection, Musavi said.

However, he added, "differences between reports reaching from Baghdad and what has been said in the Kuwaiti media with the explanations given to our charge d'affaires in Kuwait has lessened this confidence."

The prime minister who was speaking to IRNA added that although the Islamic Republic had repeatedly called for a peaceful relationship with its neighbors "but we will not permit anyone to conspire against us." [sentence as received]

The Iranian charge d'affaires, Mohammad Reza Baqeri, met with the Kuwaiti deputy foreign minister Rashid al-Rashid Saturday and was assured that the Kuwaiti Government had no such plans.

Renewed Speculation Over Islands

LD191801 Tehran IRNA in English 1714 GMT 19 Nov 84

["Baghdad Bullying on Kuwait on Islands' Sovereignty" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 18, IRNA — Iraq Monday said the Bubiyan, Warbah and Faylaka Islands in the Persian Gulf were Arab islands "whether Kuwait's or Iraq's", renewing speculation on the fate of the islands.

Radio Baghdad said in a news analysis program at 12:30 (16:00 GMT) that the Islamic Republic's warnings against Kuwait on the issue were because of the support Iraq had received from Kuwait.

"Whatever these islands may be, they are not Iranian. They are Arab, whether Kuwait's or Iraq's," Baghdad radio said.

Following a warning by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani against Kuwait's agreement to deliver the islands to Iraq, Kuwait denied such an agreement had been reached.

Prime Minister Musavi said Monday the Islamic Republic would follow the issue because of its seriousness.

Navy Commander on Situation

LD171758 Tehran IRNA in English 1748 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Rasht, Gilan Pr., Nov. 16, IRNA — The naval forces of the Islamic Republic would display their strength more than they have in the past despite reports about Kuwait's intention to hand over three of its islands to Iraq for possible military use in the Persian Gulf, Navy Commander Captain Esfandiyar Hoseyni said.

Captain Hoseyni was speaking during the inspection of a naval training centre here Saturday.

"While confronting all these plots by the arrogant powers, it (the Iranian Navy) will not allow any country to show-off its strength in the Persian Gulf."

"We have so far controlled the Persian Gulf waters for the divine aims of the Islamic Republic, from now on as well... We will display the firmness of the Islamic Republic in the Persian Gulf more than ever, with the help of God," he said.

Iran has expressed deep concern over yet unconfirmed reports that Iraq had agreed to set aside its territorial claims against Kuwait on the condition of receiving permission to use three strategic Kuwaiti islands in the northern tip of the Persian Gulf.

Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani said at Friday prayers in Tehran that Iran would not pass by this issue easily and warned that if Iran captured the islands from Iraq in the war, Kuwait would not have the right to make any territorial claims.

An Iraqi Islamic opposition spokesman also said the agreement would not be acceptable to the Iraqi people.

Captain Hoseyni said the Navy had set up a number of training centres in order to meet its needs for specialists in various fields and cut its dependence on foreign training centres.

He said a naval officers academy in the port of Now Shahr, 190 kms east of here, and two specialist training centres in Rasht and Anzali port, 40 kms north of here, had been activated.

The centre in Rasht has just enrolled 700 students in the fields of mechanics and electronics.

Paper Cited on Agreement

LD171919 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] On the basis of unconfirmed reports, during its talks with the Saddam Husayn regime several days ago, the Kuwaiti regime

decided to turn over the three islands of Warbah, Faylaka and Bubiyan to Saddam Husayn to be used in the war against Iran.

Referring to this point in his Friday prayers sermons yesterday, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani told Kuwait and the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council that if the Islamic combatants capture Bubiyan, then Kuwait would no longer be entitled to any territorial claim over it.

This recent move by Kuwait and the statement made by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani are commented upon by *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI*. In its lead article today, "Warning to the Kuwaiti Court," the paper writes: Since the very first day of this imposed war, Islamic Iran advises all the Persian Gulf states to act in their own interests in order to avoid being harmed by this war. They are advised to stay independent of the jingoistic Iraqi regime.

This is not meant to be a threat. Rather, it is benevolent advice to the Persian Gulf emirates which, if complied with, could protect them and save them from the flames of the war. Both from a standpoint of military potential and their domestic situations, the Persian Gulf shaykhdoms are incapable of sustaining the serious consequences and effects of their involvement in this imposed war.

Islamic Iran observed the comings and goings, and wheeling and dealing by some reactionary shaykhs with the jingoistic Iraqi regime; nevertheless, for the sake of the interests of the region, it many times managed to overlook these events. By adopting a benevolent attitude, Iran provided an opportunity to the region's shaykhdoms to realize their mistakes. An outstanding example is the mammoth crisis created by the Iraqi regime when it launched missile attacks on the Nowruz oilfield, polluting the Persian Gulf. There are still some shaykhdoms unable to free themselves from the consequences of that crisis. With polluted waters, the resources providing drinking water, as well as the desalination systems in the southern shores of the Persian Gulf, were engulfed by serious and unpredictable disruption.

Furthermore, attempts made by the Baghdad regime to create insecurity in the Persian Gulf sea routes, as well as its attacks on oil tankers belonging to various countries, were rendered futile by Islamic Iran's careful and timely measures. These measures were so severe that they placed a question mark against the credibility of the French Super Etendard and the Exocet missiles.

The vengeful Iraqi Ba'thist regime, disappointed in its earlier attempts, is now pressuring the Kuwaiti regime, trying to harm Kuwait's sovereignty and territorial integrity and thus take over that country's three strategic islands for military purposes.

Kuwaiti Official Reassures Envoy

LD181830 Tehran IRNA in English 1819 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 18, IRNA — Kuwait made assurances to the Islamic Republic that its three strategic islands in the Persian Gulf had not been handed over to the Iraqi regime.

Kuwaiti Deputy Foreign Minister Rashid al-Rashid made the assurances in a meeting with Iranian Charge D'affaires Mohamed Reza Baqeri Saturday.

The three islands — Bubiyan, Warbah and Faylaka — have been sought by Iraq for military use against the Islamic Republic.

The Kuwaiti response came after severe criticism by the Islamic Republic in regards to unconfirmed reports that Iraq had succeeded in winning permission to use the islands at a time of war in return for a border agreement between Iraq and Kuwait.

Kuwait announced last week it would hold talks with Iraq on border differences later this month.

Prime Minister on Government, War, Economy, Islam

GF191409 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 29 Oct 84 p 1

["Exclusive" interview with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi-Khamene'i by an unidentified correspondent of *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* news department — date not given]

[Excerpts] Correspondent: We are now at the third anniversary of your election as prime minister. If you will, for the enlightenment of the Muslim revolutionary nation, please give details of government activities during these past 3 years.

Musavi: Some of these activities were reported to the nation and members of parliament by myself and other brothers serving the government during the vote of confidence session. I will answer your question in three or four sentences: The government has made every effort to strengthen the foundations of the system, and to make all decisions as an organization, not as individuals. We have to rid the administration of extreme dependence on individuals so that if today a few brothers leave and other faithful brothers take their place, there will be no disruption in the administrative system.

We have relatively controlled the increase in prices. This has been a great task. In order to realise the extent of this work, we must consider the situation during the past 3 years; there has been the war and schemes and shortages resulting from the war and its budget. In addition, our country's inflation rate, in comparison with other countries', must be considered in a correct analysis of the situation.

Correspondent: How is the relationship between the government and the private sector; and what plans do you have on this subject?

Musavi: The relations between the government and the private sector is a relationship of the government with the people. The government is totally responsible for the economy of the country. It is natural that it looks at the private, cooperative, and government sectors as complementing one another within the framework established by the constitution. The government is willing to take maximum advantage of the nation's working power and capital within the framework of law and order for the development of the country's economy.

Correspondent: During recent years the advancements of the Islamic Republic in the fields of war defense, internal development, export of the revolution, and other areas have been admirable; but there have also been such recently increasing problems, such as the cost of living, materialism, and pursuit of easy living. What steps are you taking, as one of the country's major officials, to combat these problems which are contrary to Islamic values?

Musavi: Materialism and consumerism are the footprints which the satanic powers of oppression left in our country. The government's role has always been to face this problem. I think it is up to the newspapers and the Friday imams to give precise warnings against these dangers; generally, the people must stand up to this problem. Behind these manifestations the great satan can be seen hiding. What the government can do is to work on the use of the Isalmic consumer habits and guide the economy and the culture of the country in such a way that it will battle this condition.

However, as I have said, the main means of fighting this problem are through the clergy and mass media. I am surprised that newspapers do not have the necessary sensitivity to address this problem.

Correspondent: There have been certain efforts to isolate the powers of the hezbollahi, for example, powers of the Islamic Committee of Offices. Considering that these powers have continuously supported the revolution in different fields and have fought against the enemies of the revolution when it was necessary, do you agree to the continuation of this method of isolating them?

Musavi: There are efforts to isolate the Islamic power. Everyone must seriously face this problem. The overall policy of the government is sovereignty of the philosophy and its followers. It seems that to revive and to give excessive play to expertise can be a great danger for the revolution, but itwould be a disaster not to use the expertise within the framework of the philosophy. The point which must be remembered by officials is that it may be easier to work with "yes men" who are apparently experts, but the foundations of the revolution will not support such people. It is the hezbollahi powers in all revolutionary and traditional organizations who are the main supporters of the revolution. Any blow at these forces for any reason would be a strike against the revolution's ability to face this problem. It is necessary for all revolutionary powers in the government to be alert.

Correspondent: There is a spirit of deceit and flattery in offices, in attempts to win higher posts and positions. Have you any thoughts on combating this danger?

Musavi: Relying on truth is the best way. Recently there has been positive sensitivity expressed in this matter. However, all of us in administrative positions are in need of advice and guidance in order to fight every bud of corruption in a revolutionary manner.

Correspondent: How would you evaluate the future of the war?

Musavi: God willing, God will continue to be magnanimous to his sacrificing servants. When we look at our warriors and see them going to their maker so lovingly, we become certain that God will not let us stand alone.

President Khamene'i Arrives in Yazd Province

LD201008 Tehran IRNA in English 0857 GMT 20 Nov 84

[Text] Yazd, Nov. 20, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i arrived here this morning to inspect the development projects of the Yazd Province.

The president was welcomed at the airport by the special representative of Imam Khomeyni to Yazd Rpovince and the Friday prayers leader of the province, Ayatollah Khatami, the governor of the province, Friday prayers leaders of various cities of the province, Yazd Province deputies in Majlis, families of martyrs and also officials of the revolutionary institutions.

In this trip, the president is being accompanied by presidential advisor, Mostafa Mir-Salim, his military advisor, Colonel Salami, the minister of state in charge of executive affairs, Gholam-Reza Aghazadeh and a number of other officials.

The president, during his stay here will hold talks with the officials of the province and will also become aquainted with industrial and economic progresses of the province.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,916

LD191737 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] In its Communique No 1,916 the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran states: Holding the initiative and using superior fire power, the mighty and resistant combatants of Islam continued their battle against the mercenary Ba'thist forces the length of the battlefronts of the imposed war. The exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued yesterday in the operational sector of the northwest. Our forces, while defending their positions and defensive areas, opened fire on enemy fortifications and concentration points and destroyed three of their weapons' emplacements and killed or wounded five Iraqi troops.

In the western operational sector, the combatants of Islam, strengthening and fortifying their defensive areas and firing on ememy positions, controlled all the enemy's movements and delivered effective blows to the warmongers. Also, as a result of the intensity of fire from our battery units, the equipment and personnel operations of the enemy's engineering units were disrupted; their heavy weapons' fire was silenced. About 15 mercenary enemies were killed or wounded and 9 of their weapons' emplacement and observation posts were destroyed.

In the operational sectors of Abadan and Khorramshah, our fighting units, while returning fire on enemy positions west of the Arvand River, fortified their positions.

Departure of Combatants for Battlefronts Continues

Mobilization Groups

GF191540 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Yesterday a group of brother members of the mobilization of Eqlil and Sarhad-e Chahar Tangeh departed for the fronts of right against wrong in order to provide assistance to the Islamic combatants.

Bushehr Province Group

GF191646 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] In a continuation of the departure of combatant forces from Bushehr Province to the fronts of light against darkness, another group of sacrificing members of the mobilization unit of Dashtestan yesterday left for the battlefronts to join the Islamic Army. According to the Central News Unit these dear ones were given a warm sendoff by their families and other people.

Syrian Economy, Trade Minister Meets Officials

Central Bank Governor

LD192201 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Mr Salim Yasin, Syria's minister of economy and foreign trade, who heads a trade delegation visiting Tehran, this morning met Mr Mohsen Nurbakhsh, the governor of the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The expansion of mutual economic and banking relations was discussed at this meeting.

Commerce Minister

LD192204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Mr Salim Yasin, Syrian minister of economy and foreign trade, who is visiting Tehran at the head of a high-ranking Syrian delegation, met Mr Abedi-Ja'fari, the commerce minister, this morning. In addition to reviewing the steps taken as the result of the first joint economic committee meeting between the two countries which was held in Damascus 6 months ago, the hope was expressed that new ways would be found for the expansion of bilateral relations between Iran and Syria.

At the moment, three specialized committees composed of experts from the Ministry of Commerce and production and distribution units are having discussions with Syrian experts and are exchanging views about the commercial relations between the two countries.

Kuwait Expells 56 More Iranians, 1 Iraqi

GF181530 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, in a continuation of their acts of hostility against the Islamic Revolution of Iran, the Kuwaiti Government expelled 56 more Iranians and 1 Muslim Iraqi from the country during the past few days. These deportees sailed across the Persian Gulf and reached Bushehr, Ganaveh, and Delvaar. They were later accommodated in the special camps set up for them.

These expelled compatriots had been subjected to torture in Kuwaiti prisons for between 2 and 31 days. They had had their belongings confiscated by the Kuwaiti Government. The expelled Iraqi has asked Iran for political asylum.

Afghan Muslims Defeat Government Troops

LD191323 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Muslim revolutionaries in Afghanistan have liberated three important regions of the country. Based on reports received during the past few days, in the course of a surprise attack and several hours of heavy fighting against the Soviet occupying forces and the regime ruling Afghanistan, the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries succeeded in liberating the three regions of Madamtu, Kuhshahr, and Warmala in Ghowr Province which had been occupied by the enemy forces. During this attack 60 of the joint Soviet and Afghan government troops were killed, and 100 personnel of the Afghan Government forces surrendered to the Muslim revolutionaries. The revolutionaries also captured 200 weapons of various types.

According to another report from Afghanistan, on 12 Aban [3 November 1984], Muslim revolutionaries during a commando attack blocked the Gharbakah-Qal'eh-Ye Now road, in Badghis Province, trapping 30 members of the Afghan Government's intelligence organization. After several hours of fighting, 21 of them were either killed or wounded and the remaining nine were taken prisoner. The Muslim Afghan revolutionaries also seized several light and heavy weapons.